



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 8583**  
Hirohito INOUE : Attorney Docket No. 2003\_1507A  
Serial No. 10/701,471 : Group Art Unit 2829  
Filed November 6, 2003 : Examiner Roberto Velez  
WAFER HANDLING CHECKER : **Mail Stop: RCE**

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed March 1, 2006, the period for response having been extended by three months to September 1, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows: